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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8949

INFO RUEHAF/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 3282

RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3078

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY CAMBRIDGE IMMEDIATE 0123

RUEHHA/AMCONSUL CASABLANCA IMMEDIATE 1116

RUEHOM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 4209

RUEHWA/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 3374

RUEHJ/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 2958

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE 1156

RUEHPR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 1086

RUEHNV/USCIBO RIYADH IMMEDIATE 2926

RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 4085

RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0247

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/USCIBO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CINCPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CINCSOUTH HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CINCPACFLT HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CTF SIX ZERO IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CTF SIX ONE IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CTF SIX TWO IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/CTF SIX ZERO FOUR IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/USCIBO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

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CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 05377

CASABLANCA FOR ADS; VIENNA FOR UNIVIE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PINS, PTER, MOPS, ASEC, LE

SUBJECT: BEIRUT SITREP 0730 JUNE 8 - 0730 JUNE 9

1. C - ENTIRE TEL.

2. SPORADIC FIGHTING ALONG THE "GREEN LINE" CONTINUED DURING MUCH OF THE PAST 24 HOURS. ALTHOUGH THE MEDIA REPORT THE CLASHES ON JUNE 8 WERE LESS INTENSE THAN THOSE IN RECENT DAYS, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, SHOOTING BEGAN IN THE OLD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AROUND 1030 LOCAL JUNE 8. FIRE SPREAD QUICKLY TO THE VICINITY OF THE FUEL SHEDS ALONG THE RAS AN-NABAY HIGHWAY, SITUATED ALONG THE RAS AN-NABAY HIGHWAY AT 1200 LOCAL. FIGHTING FLARED UP AGAIN AROUND 1500 LOCAL IN THE GALLERIE SIMAH SECTOR AND SPREAD FROM THERE TO INCLUDE MUCH OF THE "GREEN

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LINE* IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS AS WELL AS THE RAS AN-NABAY SECTOR DURING THE EARLY EVENING. SOME SHELLS REPORTEDLY FELL ON THE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS OF AIN AR-RUMMANAH AND SHAYKH AT THIS TIME. A CEASE-FIRE AT 2000 LOCAL QUIETED THE SITUATION FOR ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES WHEN FIGHTING RESUMED IN THE SODICCO SECTOR AND CONTINUED OFF AND ON INTO THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING.

3. THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY STAR REPORTS THAT THE REPUTED LEADER OF HIZBALLAH IN BEIRUT SHAYKH MUHAMMAD MUSSAIN FADLALLAH DECLARED IN A FRIDAY BROADCAST ON JUNE 8 THAT ISLAMIC JIHAD IS AN ORGANIZATION WHICH EXISTS ONLY ON THE TELEPHONE. "THERE IS NOTHING TO SAY THAT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THIS ORGANIZATION IS NOT IN THE EASTERN SECTOR (OF BEIRUT)." HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING, REFERRING TO THE ALLEGED "THREAT BY ISLAMIC JIHAD AGAINST NATIONALS OF SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (BEIRUT 5326). FADLALLAH REPORTEDLY REMAINED THAT "IF WE HAVE A DIFFERENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF ARAB STATES, THAT DOES NOT MEAN WE HAVE A QUARREL WITH THE CITIZENS OF THOSE COUNTRIES." FADLALLAH ALSO STATED THAT HE HAD NO ANIMOSITY TOWARD THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MERELY A QUARREL WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS THAT THE U.S. EMBASSY HAD WARNED AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT TO BE WARY OF A MASS KIDNAPPING ATTEMPT ON THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS AND REMARKED THAT THE "GAME OF THREATS HAS BEEN FORMULATED IN THE STYLE OF INTELLIGENCE SERVICES." "WE REFUSE TO LEND THE NAME OF ISLAM TO THESE METHODS. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT NO ISLAMIC GROUP IS BEHIND THESE THREATS. ONLY AN INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION," HE CONCLUDED.

4. LATE ITEM: PHALANGIST VOICE OF LEBANON RADIO HAS JUST REPORTED THAT TWO CAR BOMBS EXPLODED ON THE MAIN SQUARE IN JAMIAH SHORTLY AFTER 0800 LOCAL JUNE 9. INITIAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT ONE PERSON WAS KILLED AND SEVERAL INJURED.

5. BEIRUT PORT AND AIRPORT REMAIN CLOSED.

BARTHOLOMEW
END OF MESSAGE

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